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## The Current Volume 22 : Issue 24

Nova Southeastern University

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# TheCurrent

The Student-Run Newspaper of Nova Southeastern University

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**NSU's president answers tough questions**

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**Tips for succeeding in the last 8 weeks of class**



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**Commentary: NSU students are apathetic and complacent**

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## 4th Annual NSU's Got Talent event coming soon

By: **Dean Gabriel Williams**  
News Editor

NSU's Got Talent will be held on March 29 and 30 at 7 p.m. on the Athletics and Student Affairs patio, located directly next to the Mailman-Hollywood building. NSU's Got Talent, the university's version of the NBC television hit series of the same name, showcases the hidden talents of NSU students in a game show platform.

This year's hosts will be Ebony Griffin, RadioX DJ, and Alex Wise, the second place winner of NSU's 2011 Last Shark Standing, a comedy competition held last semester.

Janissa Santos, freshman psychology major, said she is looking forward to seeing her fellow students' hidden talents.

"I had a friend who participated before and he said it was a fun experience and was one of the best times he had at NSU," Santos said.

Sean Pepin, assistant director of Student Activities, said the students of Brad Williams, vice president of

SEE TALENT 2

By: **Victoria Rajkumar**  
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Deborah Luis, fourth-year dental student, recently created and patented Fresh-Tips™, a one-time use, on-the-go toothbrush and breath freshener.

After patenting Fresh-Tips™, Luis decided to enter it into "Get on the Shelf", an online competition run by Wal-Mart, which invites businesses and individuals to submit their products for a chance to have them sold on walmart.com, or in Wal-Mart stores. Winners are decided by public votes.

Luis said she came up with the idea for Fresh-Tips™ three years ago.

"One Sunday afternoon, my husband and I saw a ball with all kinds of rubber extensions and we thought, 'wouldn't that be good to clean your teeth?' The idea progressed and evolved from there,"



Image courtesy of freshtips.com

An NSU dental student patented Fresh-Tips™, a one-time use on-the-go toothbrush and breath freshener.

said Luis.

Fresh-Tips™ is unique because it has soft rubber bristles that clean your teeth, gums and tongue, and contains flavored mint that simultaneously freshen your breath.

Fresh-Tips™ also contains xylitol, which is proven to fight plaque and fight cavities.

Dr. Dan Gilbert, general dentist in New Mexico, said Fresh-Tips™ is effective and he recommends the

product to his patients.

Luis said while the development of Fresh-Tips™ was challenging, she had the assistance of professionals both in the dental and business

SEE FRESH-TIPS 2

## Cheap tickets available for Key West Trip

By: **Alyssa Sterkel**  
Features Editor

Tickets for the annual Key West trip, hosted by the Student Activities and Events Board, went on sale on March 12.

On March 31, for \$45, students will enjoy parasailing, snorkeling and jet-skiing. The tickets also include transportation to and from Key West and are available from the Student Activities office located on the first floor of the Don Taft University Center.

Kory Evans, junior marine biology major, said, "The price is probably the best thing about the trip. It is almost unreal honestly."

Stephanie Haskell, graduate assistant for student programming in Student Activities, said there is room for only 55 students on the trip.

Jodi Jabs, programming assistant for the S.E.A. Board, warns

SEE KEY WEST 2



The SEA Board is hosting a trip to Key West on March 31. Tickets are now available from the Office of Student Activities for \$45.

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**FRESH-TIPS** from 1

management industries in navigating the process.

"We sought a lot of help and expertise in the fields of engineering, patent attorneys, confections, manufacturing and marketing. I have learned a ton in process," she said.

Luis chose to create this product because oral hygiene is something that she is passionate about, and wants to make her mark on the industry.

"A year ago, during Christmas time, we went out to poll random people [to test our product] and

we got such enormous positive feedback that it was evident we were doing something right," said Luis.

David Nguyen, third-year dental student said the product tastes like a lollipop and he uses it daily.

"I found that Fresh-Tips™ is a great alternative to my usual end of meal peppermints that are packed with sugar," he said.

Voting for the competition started on March 7 and continues

until April 3.

There are several ways to vote for Fresh-Tips™. First, by visiting [getontheshelf.com/product/4509/fresh-tips](http://getontheshelf.com/product/4509/fresh-tips) and clicking on the Facebook link. You can also vote for the product from your mobile device by texting 4509 to 383838.

For more information about Fresh-Tips™, go to [freshtips.com](http://freshtips.com), or [facebook.com/freshbreathfreshners](https://facebook.com/freshbreathfreshners).

**KEY WEST** from 1

that tickets will go fast and students should not wait too long before buying their ticket.

Evans said he is most looking forward to the parasailing and is excited about the trip because he's from out of state.

"Although I am a marine biology major, I've never had the chance to visit the keys for pure recreational purposes so I am really excited," he said.

Jabs said she recommends this trip because it's a great opportunity for students to get off campus and hang out with friends.

"If you choose not to do one thing, like parasailing, it does not mean you have to sit around and wait. You can swim, tan, or relax until we move on to the next activity. There is so much going on. It will be so hard to not have fun," she said.

A bus will leave NSU on March 31 at 5 a.m. and will return late in the evening. Once in Key West, students will board a catamaran before 10 a.m. and will disembark around 4 p.m.

Students can visit <http://www.furycat.com/key-west/watersports-attractions.htm> to watch a video about what is included on the trip.

**TALENT** from 1

Student Affairs's, leadership class are responsible for recruiting participants for the competition, while Student Activities coordinates the logistics of the event.

Lindsey Goldstein, sophomore education major, who participated in the event last year, said, "I performed 'Loser like Me' with the Hillel group last year. I never thought that I would be in a talent competition, but surprisingly I had an amazing time. We didn't make it to finals, but we showed our shark pride and received fin points for our organization."

Students are encouraged to participate for a chance to win prizes.

The first place prize is \$1000, second place is \$500, and third place is \$250. Additionally, student clubs and organizations receive Fin Points for participation.

Haskell, said, "We will have four judges, three being students and one professional staff, but the names will not be given out so that [participants] cannot persuade them ahead of time to influence their vote."

Lesia Phillips, assistant to the vice president of Student Affairs, has judged the competition for the past three years, but will not be returning as a judge this year. She said she enjoyed doing it in the past.

"I unintentionally became the Paula [Abdul] of the judges because I was the type of judge who wanted to be honest, but in a way that didn't crush their spirit because it's challenging to perform before hundreds of students," said Phillips.

Last year, nearly 200 people attended the event and the Student Activities expects a similar or increased turnout. Free refreshments will be served.

For more information on NSU's Got Talent, visit the Student Activities office on the first floor of the Don Taft University Center or call (954) 262-7288.

# Onshore 25

## March

events by students, for students

**Sunday, March 25**

**Pediatric cancer 5K fundraiser » 7 a.m. Main Campus**  
Sponsored by: Pediatrics Club  
Wear your PJs, donate \$3 and complete a 5K to raise money for pediatric cancer.  
Contact: Gabrielle Berlinski, [gb488@nova.edu](mailto:gb488@nova.edu)

**Monday, March 26**

**Math Brain Bowl » 12 - 1 p.m. March 26-April 4, Mailman Auditorium.**

Sponsored by: Nomatics, NSU Math Club  
An annual mathematics competition held in the Mailman auditorium. This is a team competition, which is open to all NSU students. Questions for the competition are selected from the following categories: mathematical history and general knowledge, algebra, calculus, logic and applied.  
Contact: Ricardo Carrera, [ricardo@nova.edu](mailto:ricardo@nova.edu)

**Tuesday, March 27**

**Girls Fight Back » 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. The Flight Deck**  
Sponsored by: Student Events and Activities Board  
Free personal safety defense seminar for college students. Seminar will provide information on: understanding violence and when it can happen, what is intuition, ways to reduce the risk of being victimized, and examples of boundary setting. Contact: Maria Paz Callejas, [mc1183@nova.edu](mailto:mc1183@nova.edu)

Submit your student club or organization's events for the Onshore calendar by emailing: [trail@nova.edu](mailto:trail@nova.edu).  
Only events for students, by students accepted.

Have something to say?  
Write a Letter to the Editor:  
[nsunews@nova.edu](mailto:nsunews@nova.edu)

# The Current

The Student-Run Newspaper of Nova Southeastern University

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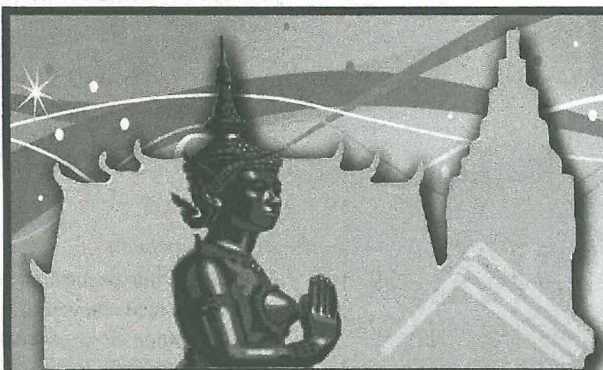
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The Current serves Nova Southeastern University from its location in Room 105 of the Athletics and Student Activities (ASA) Building. The Current is NSU's established vehicle for student reporting, opinion and the arts. All community members are invited to contribute.

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Contributing writers must not be directly involved with their coverage. Coverage by contributing writers must be meaningful and of interest to the NSU community. The Current reserves the right to edit, publish or deny submitted works as it sees fit. The Current shall remain free of associations and activities that may compromise integrity or damage credibility or otherwise create a bias, real or perceived.



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# Help Wanted

*All students should contact the Office of Student Employment, located on the first floor of the Horvitz building, to apply for these positions. For more information email: [studentemployment@nova.edu](mailto:studentemployment@nova.edu) or visit [www.nova.edu/financialaid/employment](http://www.nova.edu/financialaid/employment)*


**Job # 002**
**Senior Student Assistant**

Provide telephone technical support to the NSU computing community. Collect and record specific information regarding user requests and problems. Dispatch problem reports to appropriate personnel.  
20-25 hrs/wk; \$11/hr

**Job #: 039**
**Desktop Computing Assistant**

Assist full-time employees with the daily installation and maintenance and support of personal computer hardware and software.  
20 hrs/wk; \$10/hr

**Job #: 054**
**Lab Monitor**

Assist students and faculty computer related problems in the microcomputer lab.  
25 hrs/wk; \$8/hr

**Job #: 086**
**Graduate Student Assistant**

Assist coordinator with on-going projects within the department.  
15-20 hrs/wk; \$11/hr

**Job #: 165**
**Lifeguard**

Prevent accidents through the enforcement of policies, rules, regulation, and the conduct of persons using the pool, saunas,

and spa. Additional duties: scrub pool gutters, heavy vacuum and hosing deck. Available: 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.; \$9/hr

**Job #: 224**
**Intramural Sports Official**

Officiate intramural sports based on rules and regulations as set forth by Campus Recreation. Ensure that teams/individuals follow rules and regulations. Provide all intramural participants with superior customer service. Remain visible and on post at all times.  
Mon-Thurs, 5:30 p.m. - 11 p.m.; occasional weekends; \$8/hr

**Job #: 307**
**Orientation Assistant**

Plan, organize and implement orientation events for students, parents. Conduct group meetings with students and parents. Prepare orientation materials such as binders and flyers. Transport orientation materials to sites as needed. Work with Student Affairs to coordinate events and activities. Other duties as assigned.  
15 hrs/wk; \$8.25/hr

**Job #: 360**
**Office Assistant**

Filing, phones, copying, errands and other duties as assigned.  
20 hrs/wk; \$8.25/hr

**Job #: 374**
**Field Operations Assistant**

Assist the Operations Coordinator by ensuring fields and facilities are prepared for home games and events. Act as a troubleshooter at events by providing supervision. Also assist with game management.  
20 hrs/week; \$8hr/wk

**Job#: 397**
**Student Ambassador**

Conduct campus tours to prospective students and their families. Other duties include data entry. Answer incoming phone calls. Participate in special events and telecounseling.  
20 hrs/wk; \$8.25/hr

**Job #: 491**
**Senior Student Assistant (North Miami Beach Campus)**

Staff the circulations desk, shelve materials, process materials, check out/in computer and A/V equipment after being trained to help set up computer software, prepare training areas, prepare first level preventative, maintain A/V equipment after being trained, assist patrons using computer.  
20 hrs/wk; \$9/hr

**Job #: 500**
**Phonathon Worker**

Call alumni from all over the

country to update their information.

Let our alumni know about new developments at NSU and ask for support of NSU through our annual giving program.  
10-15 hrs/wk; \$8.50/hr

**Job #: 544**
**Student Assistant (East Campus)**

Filing, alphabetizing payroll forms, keying time sheets, leave of absence reports. Putting reports in book binders, auditing payroll forms.  
25 hrs/wk; \$10/hr

**Job #: 568**
**Admin. Student Assistant (West Palm Beach)**

Provide administrative support and services to the SEC recruiting staff, meeting enrollment goals and objectives. Assist in providing office coverage to front desk. Provide customer service to all callers and visitors in a professional manner.  
20-25 hrs/wk; \$10/hr

**Job #: 595**
**Technology Assistant**

Editing web pages, data entry. Maintaining department web schedules. Other duties as assigned.  
\$8/hr

## News Briefs

### NSU faculty and staff able to donate to the university through payroll

NSU faculty and staff can now donate to the university via a link on the president's web page at [www.nova.edu/president/facultystaffgiving/](http://www.nova.edu/president/facultystaffgiving/) or via payroll deduction at [www.nova.edu/facultystaffgiving](http://www.nova.edu/facultystaffgiving). The methods came about after faculty and staff expressed, in a series of recent town hall meetings with university administrators, that they wanted an easy method to donate to NSU's Capital Campaign, a non-profit for fund raising program, or another university fund. The fundraising initiatives are being facilitated in order to increase the university's endowment to \$100 million in accordance with the university's Vision 2020 initiative.

### New lending library offers free access to exam-prep materials

The Lending Library, offered by the Office of Academic Services, now offers a free service that allows students to checkout a variety of exam test-prep resources for exams including the GRE, LSAT and MCAT. Unlimited use of the materials is available when they are used in the library, which is located in the Parker building, suite 100.

### NSU competes in Recyclemania 2012

NSU will be among 600 colleges and universities nationwide participating in Recyclemania, a friendly competition and benchmarking tool which promotes sustainability initiatives. NSU is participating in the campaign to compliment its "Go Green" initiative, which aims to educate students about how to be more environmentally friendly. The university has invested in a marketing campaign and has placed recycling bins around campus as ways to educate students about the initiative. Recyclemania ends on March 30.

### Lauderhill cricket stadium hosts national championship

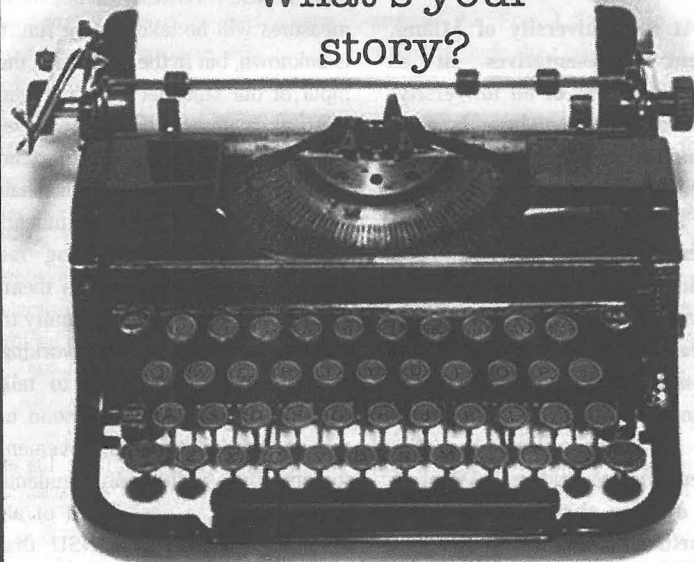
The cricket stadium at Central Broward Regional Park hosted 29 college teams from the U.S. and Canada for the national championship, March 16 - March 18. Broward County officials were happy about the event since there was criticism from residents that the \$70 million facility was underused. The finals were broadcast live on TV Asia in Canada and the U.S.

### Orlando among airports to ease search of elderly travelers

Beginning March 19, passengers age 75 and older flying out of Orlando, Chicago O'Hare, Denver, and Portland, Oregon airports will find less stringent TSA screenings. They will be allowed to keep on their shoes and light jackets and will not face as many pat downs as in the past. TSA changed its controversial screening policy for the elderly after reports that an elderly woman was stripped searched after refusing to go through an airport scanning device for fear that it would set off her defibrillator.

## Diary of...

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# Candid conversation with the president

By: **Dean Gabriel Williams**  
News Editor

*This week's installment of the Current series, which exposes students to various aspects of student life, includes an interview with NSU President George L. Hanbury II. Hanbury was a city manager in three cities and served as NSU's Chief Operating Officer for 13 years. He became president and chief executive officer of NSU in 2010.*

**Q: The first question is in regard to undergraduate admissions and graduation rates. The University of Miami currently has the lowest admission rate in the state, at 39.2 percent, and a 4-year graduation rate of 68 percent, amongst the highest in the state. NSU, in comparison, has an admissions rate of 53.3 percent, amongst the highest in the state, and an undergraduate graduation rate of 41 percent, amongst the lowest in the state. What is NSU doing to: (a) decrease its admissions rate, and (b) increase its 4-year graduation rate, in a way that attracts the best and brightest students to the university?**

**A:** NSU, as you know, is in a very unique situation, as only 20 percent of its student body is undergraduate students. With the undergraduate program being a little under 20 years old, there are inconsistencies that have to be resolved, including our admissions and graduation rates. Currently, NSU has an undergraduate student population of 6,000 students; half of which are traditional, while the other half is non-traditional. NSU's undergraduate requirements have been, for career students especially, relaxed, with the minimum cumulative GPA required to be admitted at a 2.2. Over the next five years, that requirement will rise to a 3.0, for both traditional and non-traditional students. Because a student's previous cumulative GPA is one the best indicators of how successful the student will be at the undergraduate level, once we raise the minimum GPA required to be admitted into the undergraduate program, over time, the graduation rate will steadily increase.

**Q: Florida International University was established in 1965, one year after NSU was established. While the two universities took different paths, both are currently ranked in the second tier of national universities. While one might argue that any comparison between a public and private institution is unfair, one area where FIU trumps NSU is endowment; money and property donated to an academic institution for its general welfare, some of which goes towards scholarships and the procurement of academic resources. FIU's endowment, as of 2010, sits at \$153 million, while NSU's endowment as of 2010 sits at only \$54.2 million. What is NSU doing to increase its private donor base?**

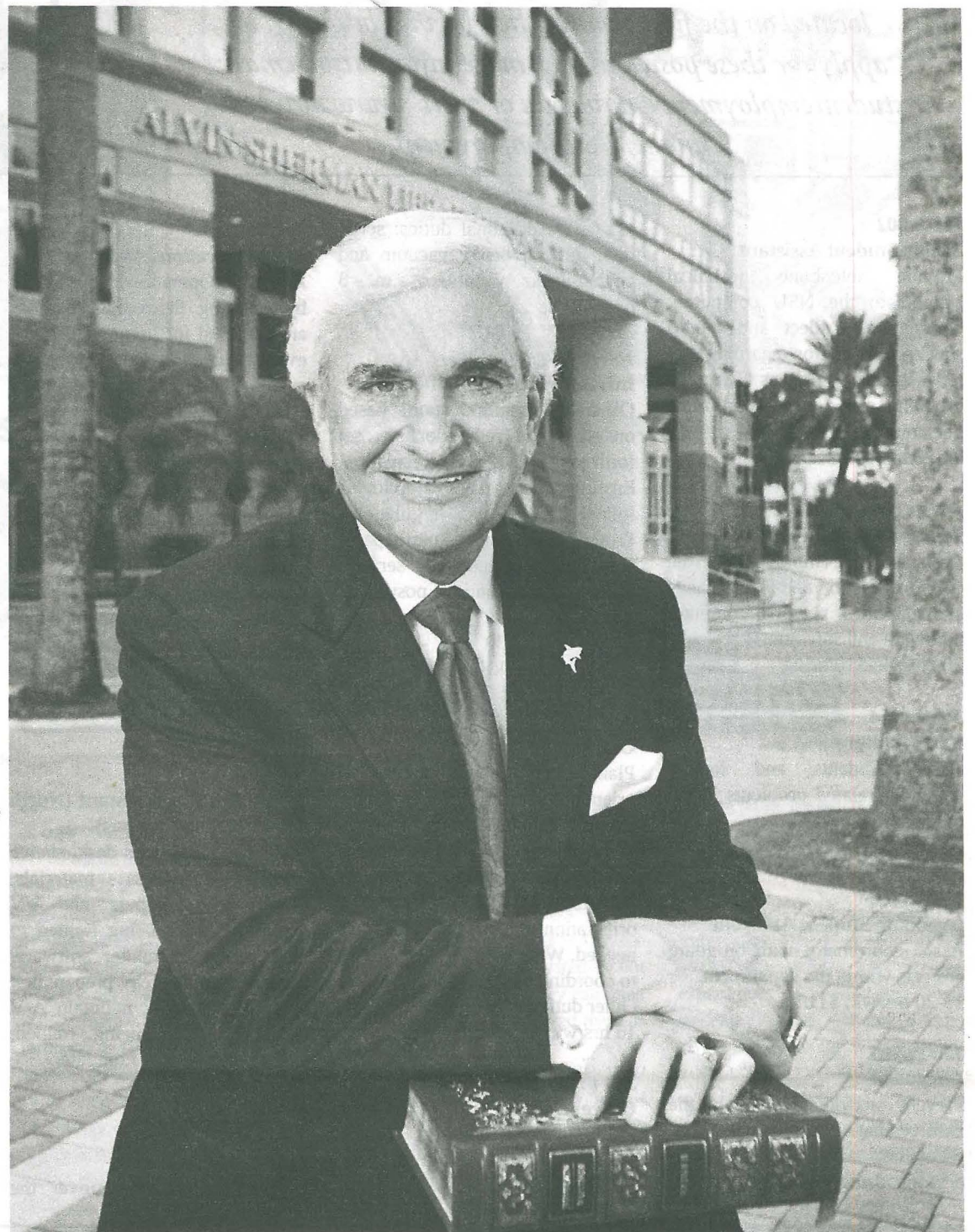
**A:** There are two factors that currently negatively affect the

university's endowment. First, NSU has an alumni population of 145,000, but less than 2 percent of alumni give. Second, often times, people give to a center, school or college within the university, but not to the university itself. As part of Vision 2020, NSU's goal is to increase the endowment to \$150 million. How we hope to achieve this is by ensuring the current student body at NSU has a rewarding a student experience, so as to ensure that they graduate with affinity for the institution and are compelled to give back. Second, we will be establishing alumni chapters and will pursue other initiatives with and amongst current NSU alumni to instill a sense of affinity for the institution, which will increase the number of alumni who give back to the university. Third and finally, we will continue to pursue large private donations by marketing the growth and advancement that has taken place at the university.

**Q: Tuition at UM is higher than NSU by at least \$10,000/year. A closer look at the statistics, however, reveal that 37 percent of students at UM have their financial needs fully met, while that number at NSU stands at 11 percent. An even further look reveals that the average need-based scholarship or grant award at UM is \$23,552, while that number at NSU stands at \$12,028. What is NSU doing to provide immediate solutions to the issues of student financial need?**

**A:** This question ties very much into your last question regarding the university's endowment. The greater the endowment, the more we can draw from it for scholarships for students. Typically, academic institutions draw no more than 10 percent from its endowment annually to fund student scholarships. With the endowment currently at \$54 million, NSU can only draw a maximum of \$5 million to fund scholarships per year. However, an increase in the endowment to \$150 million means that the university could draw up to \$15 million to fund scholarships per year. In addition to the endowment, grants help the university to maintain a lower cost of attendance per student. Cost of attendance is what it costs the university to educate each student, while tuition is what is actually paid by each student towards his or her cost of attendance. Endowments and grants typically help to cover the difference between the two. NSU is looking to aggressively seek research grants, as a means of ensuring that the university can cover the difference between the cost of attendance and tuition per student.

**Q: NSU has the lowest class size in the state, with 76 percent of classes having 20 or fewer students. FIU is at the higher end of the spectrum, with only 23 percent of its classes having 20 or fewer students. Despite this, the numbers reveal something rather interesting: freshman retention — an indicator of student satisfaction—at FIU is 81 percent, while it is only 67 percent at NSU. What is NSU doing to improve the academic**



Dr. George L. Hanbury II, NSU president and chief executive officer.

COURTESY OF OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF NSU

**experience for undergraduate students?**

**A:** This question has a direct link to your first question regarding admissions and graduation rates for undergraduate students. One of the ways in which we hope to address concerns with the undergraduate academic experience is to increase admissions standards. An increase in admissions standards will result in — over time — less students leaving the university. Students who are not academically prepared for college-level coursework typically end up leaving college, regardless of which college they attend. We do our students a great service by ensuring that our admissions standards match the rigor of the undergraduate academic programs. The other factor that typically determines whether students leave or stay at NSU is finances, which is directly linked to your third question regarding student financial need. By increasing the amount of scholarships available to talented students, we can, over time, decrease the number of students who leave the university because of financial reasons.

**Q: What is Vision 2020? How does it attempt to improve student life and create a unified NSU identity?**

**A:** Vision 2020 is essentially a master plan for how the university

will proceed in developing and advancing NSU. The plan includes a revamped mission statement, pointed objectives and core values. In achieving the goals set forth in Vision 2020, the objective is to do them in a way that does not compromise the university's values or the trust and confidence that the student body has in the university.

**Q: At the University of Miami, student representatives sit as voting members of all university-wide committees. There is even a student trustee (with voting power) on the Board of Trustees at UM. The idea behind this form of student governance is that students should be empowered and have just as much stake in the success of the university as faculty, staff and administration. What is your opinion about NSU's university-wide committees having voting student representatives? What is your opinion about NSU's Board of Trustees having a voting student Trustee?**

**A:** It has not been the tradition at NSU for students to sit as voting members on the Board of Trustees and university-wide committees. Students at NSU tend to be tactical in nature, while administrators tend to be strategic in nature. And so, the challenges in having students sit on the Board of Trustees and university-

wide committees are: first, are these opportunities that students at NSU want; second, can students make the transition from thinking tactically to thinking strategically in order to make decisions of grave importance for the welfare of the university; and third, is having voting student representatives in this manner something that is possible here at NSU? Whether or not these measures will be taken in the future is unknown, but in the meantime, the input of our students is encouraged and always welcome. I have, personally, made it a priority to attend as many student events and town hall meetings as possible, so that students feel comfortable approaching me about the issues that concern them, and so that I have the opportunity to reassure students that we are working hard to solve issues, and to talk about the changes that are soon to come at NSU that will improvement student life. Additionally, students have PanSGA, a consortium of all student governments at NSU that act as the voice of the student body. The student governments, as well as PanSGA, are resources that students should use when they have issues and concerns. These are mechanisms that serve the student body, and students should do everything in their power to hold their elected and appointed officials accountable.



# Diary of... a musician and radio host

By: **Daniel E. Urdaneta**  
Contributing Writer

Daniel E. Urdaneta is a communication studies major. His hobbies include swimming, racquetball, going to the beach and playing with his dog. Daniel's favorite quote is "Always follow your heart and intuition, somehow they already know what you want to become," by Steve Jobs.

I tattooed "family, music and success" on my left arm because they are the most important things in my life. I always knew music was my passion, but it was not until I turned 21 that I realized music production would be my career.

My interest in music all began when I was a kid. I used to lock myself in my bedroom and steal my mom's broom to build myself a microphone. I would use my bed and pillows as a drum set when I started taking drum lessons. The first instrument I learned to play was the drum set, but also loved the sound of chords and melodies coming out from a piano and guitar—they seem like they can write a song without saying a word.

There was always a guitar in my house and one day I tried to make sounds come from it. However, there wasn't "YouTube" or "Google" then to search for chords, and I was too lazy to take guitar lessons, but 10 years later I finally did. Now, I go to the piano lab at NSU and lock myself in the big room with the lights off and have a relaxing writing session.

A music career was always my dream, even though my dad was an engineer and my mom was a teacher. I'm from Venezuela, and selecting music as a career there doesn't yield more than teaching music theory or playing an instrument. So, I decided to study business, but after I earned



COURTESY OF DANIEL URDANETA  
Communication studies major Daniel Urdaneta's radio show, Acoustic Sessions, airs every Wednesday from 10 p.m. to 12 a.m. on NSU's radio station, RadioX. Starting next week, he will host another RadioX show, Local Buzz.

my associate in science degree in business administration I changed paths.

After completing my associates, I found a Music Business Creative Production degree at Miami Dade College. The business side of it, I did not like too much, but I figured it was a better way to go. After two years, I graduated and had the chance to do an internship in a great recording studio in Miami, Audio Vision Studios. At the same time, I was the drummer of a rock band, which was very successful for about two years until we broke up. Then, I started producing different music in the Miami area.

Libertad Condicional, which is considered my first and most dedicated project, was a fundraising initiative in which 12 different local artists participated. Further from being professionally satisfied, I was personally pleased with the results knowing that all the funds were sent to a foundation for poor children in Venezuela.

2011 was a great year. I was finally able to finish my music portfolio and put it up on my website, [www.DanielURdaneta.com](http://www.DanielURdaneta.com). Also, I had the

honor to work with some local artists and record some great hits! Moreover, I put together 305RadioShow, a window for local artist to show off their talent and their music.

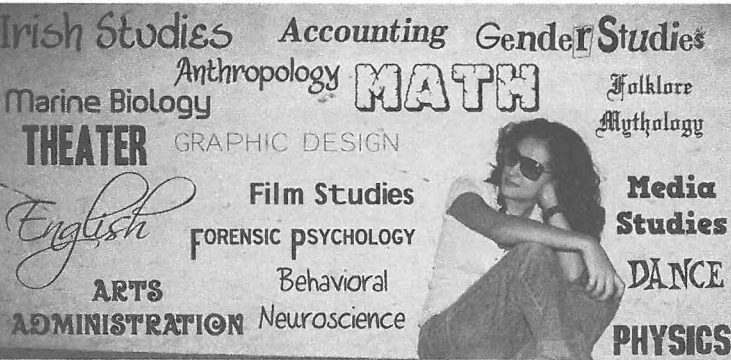
Because of my creative spirit and my enthusiastic attitude, I'm always looking to be innovative to keep myself and other people entertained. In 2012, I knew I could tie my music production skills with radio and TV, so I decided to start at NSU and complete a bachelor's degree in Communication Studies. Additionally, I knew there was a radio station at the university and wanted to join immediately.

I started working at RadioX as an intern and after a month I was assigned my own radio show: Acoustic Sessions. Three weeks later, I became the music director.

When I want something, I picture myself doing it, write it down and go for it. I love the phrase, "You can never fail doing something you love to do, and eventually you will succeed."

So many people ask me what is it exactly that I do. I proudly respond: "I'm a music producer, radio host and music director for a radio station."

# How to choose the perfect minor



COURTESY OF SXC.HU AND GRAPHIC DESIGN BY A. ESCOBAR  
At NSU, there are over 50 minors to choose from.

By: **Alyssa Sterkel**  
Features Editor

Choosing a minor is not like a mathematical equation. You can't add your major plus your interests and divide by your career goal to equal the perfect minor. Even though your choice of minor can't be figured out mathematically, it doesn't have to be a daunting task. Here's how you should go about choosing your minor:

### Research

Choosing a minor is not like picking what you want for lunch in the UC. You need to research (like you do for school) because there are more than 50 minors available and students can select a minor that is housed under another college in the university.

Carmen Sosa, assistant director of enrollment services in the Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences, said, "Each student is an individual and has specific goals, interests and strengths that need to be explored to determine what is in their best interest."

Look at all the minors offered, see which ones interest you and then narrow them down.

### Plan ahead

I know procrastination is a student's best friend, but don't procrastinate when it comes to choosing your minor. Minors can only be declared after a student has earned 30 credits and before they've earned 90 credits. Sosa said it is important to review the course frequency and course pre-requisites for the minor you select. All Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences undergraduate course frequencies are available through the online Course

Frequency Report at [www.fcas.nova.edu/coursewizard/undergraduate.pdf](http://www.fcas.nova.edu/coursewizard/undergraduate.pdf)

"Course rotation is key. If you wait until your 90th credit to declare a minor and that minor is on a two year rotation that's mathematically not going to work," she said. "It is important to review course frequency to ensure that the student is able to complete the minor requirements within their planned timeframe."

Students are encouraged to review their degree requirements and meet with their academic advisors to review and explore possibilities and options for minors. You don't want to schedule an appointment with your advisor at the last minute only to realize the minor you desperately want is simply impossible to fit in before you graduate.

### Mix and match

Choosing a minor can also be fun. Don't be afraid to choose one that doesn't complement your major. Sosa said students can select a minor that will complement their major, reflect their personal interests, supplement their future career goals or provide insight to graduate or professional school programs.

Sosa said, "Some of our best performances in the theatre [at NSU] have been biology majors. I've had a student with a legal studies major choose a criminal justice minor thinking it would provide them with an overview of the criminal justice system."

When choosing a minor, remember there is no formula to follow. There's no right or wrong minor. Choose what is best for you.

# Don't lose your focus – breeze through the final weeks of the semester

Written by: **Victoria Rajkumar**

Let's face it; we're almost at the finish line of what was a very long school year. As we wind down to the remaining eight weeks of class our focus has, well, diminished since spring break. How can we recover from post-inebriation? We can't. But here are some tips to help you attempt to keep your head in the game:

### Feed yourself wisely

Sounds simple, right? Since most of us lost some brain cells over the break, we need to try and gain back what was lost. Put down the FOCUSFactor and spit out the Adderall. These foods taste way

better and will give your brain the jolt it needs:

**FISH** – Load up on salmon. This stuff is brain gold. The Omega-3 fatty acids help you maintain focus and concentration.

**NUTS** – Can you believe these little guys help stimulate the brain? The protein found in nuts can help you stay focused and learn more effectively.

**CAFFEINE** – We're all a little lost without the kiss of caffeine. Don't give up on your daily coffee. Studies show that drinking a cup of coffee is believed to help stimulate the brain and make you feel more alert. Hate the taste of coffee? Try some Black Tea instead.

**BLUEBERRIES** – Can't remember chapters one through...

all of them? Grab a handful of blueberries to spark your memory. Studies show that blueberries fight off certain types of cancer, boost your immunity and are chock full of antioxidants – these wonder fruits can also make you to stay focused longer and over time will strengthening your memory.

**NATURAL SUGAR** – Splenda won't save you now. Grab your favorite fruit and munch until you remember all the facts and figures you should've mastered two months ago. Natural sugar can only be found in fruit/fruit juices and can promote alertness in the brain. Eat an orange while you study. What can it hurt?

**Give the world a chance to miss you for a bit**

Who can concentrate on anything with the likes of Facebook, Twitter and texting? I dare you to venture into complete solitude for a couple of hours (no, sleeping doesn't count) to regain yourself. Turn off everything and work on one task. Doing this builds your focus and concentration, which you'll need for finals.

### Plan, organize and stick to it (at least for a few weeks)

Write out a list of your most imperative tasks and check them off once you finish. It also helps to set a "goal time" in which you hope to be done. By doing this, you're programming your brain to focus only on what is important and, hopefully, try to block out what isn't.

### If all else fails, it's time to whip out the apps

If it has come to this, then listen up. Use technology to your advantage. There are multiple apps available for your computer, iPhone and Android that are designed to help you regain your focus.

**Evernote** – will help you create organized lists that you can view on your computer or on your phone.

**Get Focused! The Rainy Method** – gives you a pep talk while playing the soothing sound of a rainy day.

**Stay On Task** – a timer that goes off randomly checking to see if you're doing what you're supposed to.

Get your brain moving again (the healthy way) and finish off the semester to the best of your ability.



# Baseball ready for conference battles



Senior outfielder, A.J. Regoli, leads the conference with seven home runs.

COURTESY OF NSU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

By: **Kevin Preciado**  
Sports Editor

Through their first 17 games of the season, the Sharks stand with a record of 13-4. The team's record will be put to the test as they play six conference matches over the next two weeks.

As of March 12, NSU has posted the highest slugging and on base percentages in the conference. In addition, they have the second highest batting average and have hit the second most home runs.

Prior to the season, Greg Brown, head coach, said he wanted the team to cut down on strikeouts. He said the team has accomplished that.

"I think the biggest key is that we've not struck out," said Brown. "We've had productive at-bats, and the guys have done a great job buying in. This being my second year, I think that they've bought into our system."

Senior outfielder, A.J. Regoli, leads the conference with seven home runs and has the highest slugging percentage. One of those home runs was a walk-off that pushed the team to beat Barry on Feb. 28. Regoli called the moment one of his most memorable moments. He said he has been impressed with how the team chemistry has evolved throughout the season.

"As a whole I think we're coming together a little better," he said. "The team chemistry is coming out. We know how to pick each other up when things are going bad and when things are going good. I think we know how to run with it. Overall, I think we're doing pretty well," said Regoli.

Sophomore pitcher, Zachary Westcott, has made four starts this season and won them all. He credited his teammates for the success.

"I've put in a lot of hard work this year, and I know everyone on

the team put in a lot of hard work. A lot of those games I won, I've been throwing well, but at the same time, our bats have really been putting it together, and we've been taking care of the baseball defensively. You can't really put it on me, it's more of a team thing," said Westcott.

Both Westcott and Brown said the SSC is the toughest conference in the nation. Westcott said he's excited about the upcoming conference games.

"I'm looking forward to those matches," said Westcott. "I like our conference series [matchups] a lot. They get me really fired up, and I know a lot of the other guys get really into the games."

The team will play a three-game series against Eckerd, March 23-24 and a three game series at Barry, March 30-31.

## ON THE BENCH

Commentary by:  
**Kevin Preciado**



## NSU's five greatest female student-athletes



COURTESY OF NSU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

Junior golfer, Abbey Gittings, is ranked the number one female golfer in Division II

March 8 was International Woman's Day, and, although today is not March 8, it's never too late to celebrate the accomplishments of women. Today, we will pay tribute to the five greatest NSU female student-athletes. It was no easy task narrowing it down to five as there are many who are worthy of being on the list.

How did I determine who made the top five? Three of the five were All-Americans last year, and the other two, and in all likelihood, will be this year. These athletes are not only the best at NSU, they are some of the premiere athletes in the nation.

**Erin Black, junior swimmer.** She may not be a descendant of Poseidon, but it is clear she belongs in the water. She has been named Counsilman Hunsaker Swimmer of the Week three times and helped her team capture its first conference championship in program history.

**Laura Saladrigas, junior utility player for softball.** She was named to the Daktronics, Inc. All-American Team last season after her dominating performance on the

field. Saladrigas posted the highest batting average in the conference last season. She has even showed off her wide range of abilities by pitching well this season.

**Abbey Gittings, junior golfer.** She is a proven winner. In two years, she's won two national championships. We'll see if she'll make it three for three. She is currently ranked the number one female golfer in Division II.

**Daniela Ortiz, freshman golfer.** She stepped right in and proved to be one of the best. She won the individual title at the NSU Shark Invitational and has been one of the most consistent players all year. She is currently ranked the number two female golfer in Division II.

**Alyssa O'Donnell, senior rower.** O'Donnell was a key member of the team that won conference last season. O'Donnell received All-American and All-SSC honors for her performance last season.

Every female student-athlete has represented NSU in a great fashion, but these five are the best of the best.

# Fan reaction to the Brandon Marshall trade

By: **Kevin Preciado**  
Sports Editor

Driving past the Miami Dolphins training facility last week, one could not help but notice the horde of reporters camped outside. They were there mostly because of the speculation that Peyton Manning might sign with the Dolphins, but also because of the trade that sent Brandon Marshall to the Chicago Bears.

During his time with the Dolphins, Marshall caught more than 2,000 yards and nine touchdowns. He was the most physically gifted and productive receiver the franchise has seen this decade. However, the combination

of his incidents off the field and inconsistency when in catching the ball was enough to force management to trade him.

There have been differing reactions from Dolphins fans regarding the trade. When senior sport and recreation management major, Spencer Ray, heard of the trade he did not like it. Ray said, by trading away Marshall, the receiver's time here was ultimately a failure.

"He failed because he never won anything with the 'Fins," said Ray.

When junior biology major, Michelle Garcia-Casals, first heard of the news, she thought it was a joke. She said the trade was a bad move by

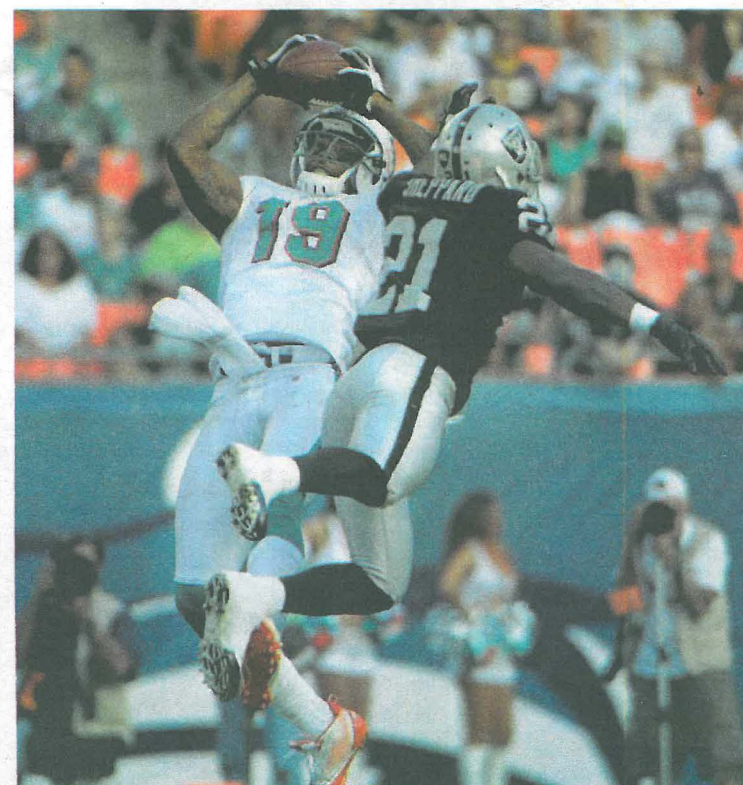
the Dolphins.

"I was upset, because they didn't trade for something even equal to his talent. Third round picks? Seriously," said Garcia-Casals.

Junior finance major, Jeremy Mathis, didn't think the trade would hurt the Dolphins.

"No big deal, others can come in and do the same, but with less headache and drop less passes," he said.

How the team plans to replace a receiver of Marshall's caliber remains to be seen. Considering this year's draft is deep at the receiver position, one would have to believe the Dolphins will select one or two.



COURTESY OF NFLGRIDIRONGAB.COM

Brandon Marshall, Dolphins wide receiver, was traded to the Chicago Bears on March 13.



# Coach Boneé earns 500th victory



COURTESY OF NSU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS  
Lesa Boneé, softball coach, earned her 500th victory as a coach on Feb. 25.

By: **Kevin Preciado**

*Sports Editor*

On Feb. 25, the softball team defeated Young Harris 6-3 in what turned out to be a historic victory for head coach, Lesa Boneé. This win marked her 500th victory as a head coach at the collegiate level.

Following her milestone, several of Boneé's colleagues around the country sent her congratulatory emails. She said she loved receiving recognition from her peers.

"It's a personal and professional accomplishment. I'm just thankful that I've had the opportunity to be around and work with so many good student athletes," she said.

Assistant coach, Robin Martin, said Boneé's 500th victory indicates that her system is proven to work. She said, "She has created something very special within this program and expects excellence from her student-athletes day in and day out. Her no-nonsense philosophy has created an atmosphere of consistency, discipline and the necessary buy-in to succeed. 500 is a big number. She's doing something right."

Winning a conference championship and coming from behind to defeat the number two team in the nation, while she was at Southern Wesleyan, were two of her most memorable victories. Boneé said her 500th victory was right up there as well.

"Number 500 was a good win for me," said Boneé. "Young Harris jumped out ahead; we came back. We battled back. We did some good things. That was a really good win in the fashion that we won it because we had to battle and we had to come back. I'll always remember 500 as a really good game that we came back on and we battled."

Boneé said she hopes her next big accomplishment will be to win a conference championship.

"I would absolutely love to win a conference championship here at NSU. I love NSU and I love working here. I would just absolutely love for our program to win a conference championship," she said.



Want to write  
a letter to the editor?  
We're all ears!

**TheCurrent**  
The Student-Run Newspaper of Nova Southeastern University

## S P O R T S SHORTS

WRITTEN BY  
KEVIN PRECIADO

### BASEBALL

The team improved its record to (13-4) after defeating St. Michael's 14-5 on March 14.



### TENNIS

The team dropped its record to 6-6 when it fell to 11th ranked California University of Pennsylvania on March 11.



### SOFTBALL



After losing both games in a doubleheader to 18th ranked Rollins, the team's record fell to 17-15 on March 10. The team lost the first matchup 1-2 and the second game 1-3.

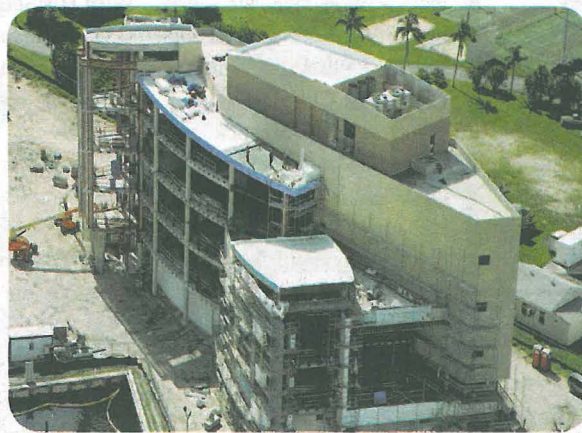


## THE TANK-KEEPERS

Watching the **REEF**

This article on The Reef Opening is part three of a six part series featuring the NSU Facilities Departments.  
Go Green Recycling | Facilities Management | Public Safety | The Physical Plant

## Center of Excellence for Coral Reef Ecosystems Science at the Oceanographic Center



The 86,000-square-foot CoE is to be located at NOVA's Oceanographic Center and its National Coral Reef Institute (NCRI) on the ocean side of Port Everglades in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

Funded in part by a grant from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) at a cost of over \$30 million, the research facility is expected to create 22 new academic jobs and 300 construction jobs; employ 50 graduate students; and preserve 22 existing academic jobs. The CoE CRES will be the only research facility in the nation dedicated entirely to coral reef ecosystem science. Major goals include not only fundamental research, but also to finding management and conservation solutions to pressing coral reef issues.

**GRAND OPENING: June 4, 2012**

For further information on NSU's Facilities Programs and Procedures, contact:

**PUBLIC SAFETY**  
[www.nova.edu/publicsafety](http://www.nova.edu/publicsafety)  
call (954) 262-8999

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call (954) 262-8800



# The super and not-so-superhero movies

By: **Tyler Conti**  
Contributing Writer

Over this past decade, the popularity of films based on comic books has grown exponentially. Films based on comics now appear regularly throughout the year; much to every comic book lover's excitement. However, with all the hype circling the comic-fad, there are bound to be some hit and misses. For those of you looking to catch your favorite superhero in action, here is a breakdown of comic book to live action movies you must see and those you should avoid like kryptonite.

## The Super

Nolan's Batman series: "Batman Begins" (2005), "The Dark Knight" (2008) and "The Dark Knight Rises" (2012)

Widely considered to be one of the best films based on a comic in

history, "The Dark Knight" changed opinions and shattered the stereotype already displaced by its prequel, "Batman Begins" (2005). The series proved that the characters made popular in the comics don't have to be cliché or child-friendly. Rather, these characters are deeply emotional and beset with mature problems that run on the borderline between honorable and menacing. "The Dark Knight" proved that comic book films hold a place in modern cinema and deserve as much recognition as any other film genre. The Batman trilogy concludes this summer with "The Dark Knight Rises."

"Iron Man" (2008), "Iron Man 2" (2010), "Thor" (2011) and "Captain America: The First Avenger" (2011)

With great hopes of creating a film based around the popular Avengers comics, "Iron Man" was

released in 2008 to an amazing box office success. Two years later, the equally explosive "Iron Man 2" was released and the following year "Thor" and "Captain America" made their way to the big screen. These films were well accepted by critics and audience alike. All of these films combined action and likable characters to create a band of family-friendly characters who will continue to be box office regulars in the foreseeable future. While these films don't dwell in the gritty reality of Nolan's Batman, they are just as popular for their undeniably heroic nature.

## Not So Super

"The Green Lantern" (2011)

This film has amazing special effects paired with a boring, uninteresting main character. "The Green Lantern" is just watchable. Barely. The film shows the ordinary

Hal Jordan, an experimental fighter pilot, and his involvement with the intergalactic peacekeepers known as the Green Lantern Corps. The Green Lantern Corps is an interesting concept that the writers of the story did not manage to dwell on, which could have potentially saved the movie. Instead, they jumped from character to character and from effects shot to effects shot. Once in his skin-tight -CGI-created suit, Ryan Reynolds' character, Hal Jordan, still does not have what it takes to be The Green Lantern. He constantly shifts from action hero to emotional support for the film's other characters. The super power granted to all Green Lanterns is having the ability to create anything imaginable using "green energy". This sounds awesome until you actually see Reynolds's character use his powers. The power granted to Reynolds seems wasted. He has the mind of a 5-year-old in a toy chest and all the amazing

action scenes are marred by the boring use of his abilities, which include using his "green energy" to create a giant mallet. Thrilling. "The Green Lantern" truly failed to capitalize on an amazing opportunity.

## "Hulk" (2003)

This movie sucked. The characters were mindless, generic superheroes and villains with nothing interesting to offer. The film took a great actor, Eric Bana, and one of the most interesting characters in comics, the Hulk, and made a film better left unmentioned, if not, forgotten. I remember watching this movie and being utterly disappointed. Fortunately, the Hulk film was rebooted in 2008 with "The Incredible Hulk" starring Edward Norton, who will be returning in the anticipated "The Avengers," another comic book movie hopeful, film set for release this summer.

# Are you still jamming to these? The top five songs from the 90s

By: **Medgine Durand**  
Contributing Writer

As a 90s kid, I can tell you that the 90s was the best decade ever. It was full of imagination, creativity, and originality — everything seemed new and fresh. Creativity was flowing everywhere, especially when it came to music. Music showed originality from the artists who brought it to the public and made the 90s one with unforgettable musical hits. It is hard to pin point the best part of the 90s, so I took the liberty to name 5 of the greatest hits from that decade.



COURTESY OF EURTHISNTHAT.COM

## #5: Barenaked Ladies - "One Week"

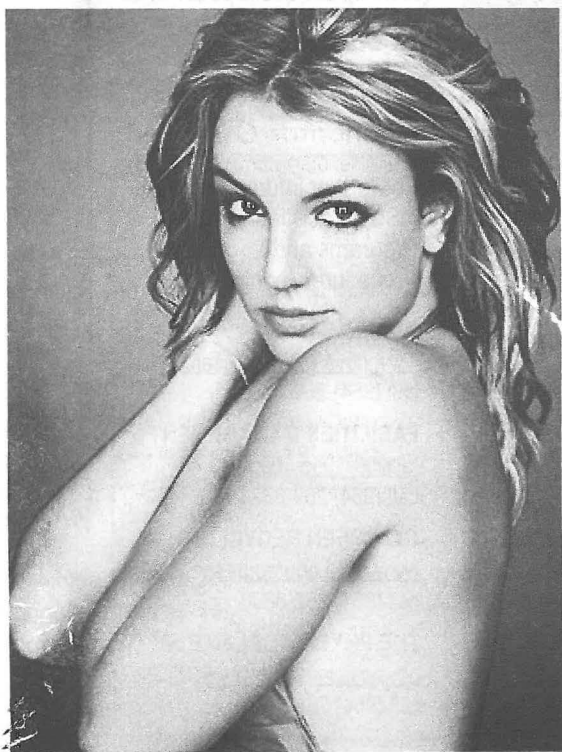
"Gotta get in tune with Sailor Moon cause that cartoon has got the boom anime babes that make me think the wrong thing."

The song was so catchy that I actually knew the words before the meaning of the lyrics. For instance, "Chickity China the Chinese chicken, you have a drumstick and your brain stops tickin." The lyrics still baffle me, but it is still fun to sing along to and definitely puts all who listen to it in a good mood.

## #4: Britney Spears - "Baby One More Time"

"When I'm not with you I lose my mind. Give me a sign, hit me baby one more time."

Say whatever you want about Britney Spears, but in the 90s this song was a huge hit. Everyone knew who Britney Spears was as soon as the beat dropped and she came on the track singing, "Oh baby, baby." Of course, she's not the same blonde-hair-in-pigtails, school girl outfit wearing teen we once knew (and loved). But, It's 2012 and we still love our 90s girl, Britney.



COURTESY OF LATESTCELEBRITYGOSSIP.COM



COURTESY OF MEDIA.ONSUGAR.COM

## #3: Spice Girls - "Wannabe"

"So tell me what you want, what you really, really want." What 90s pre-teen girl didn't want to be a Spice Girl? Whether you're a boy or a girl, I'm certain your lives were somehow influenced by the Spice Girls. Who knew these ladies were going to take world by storm?

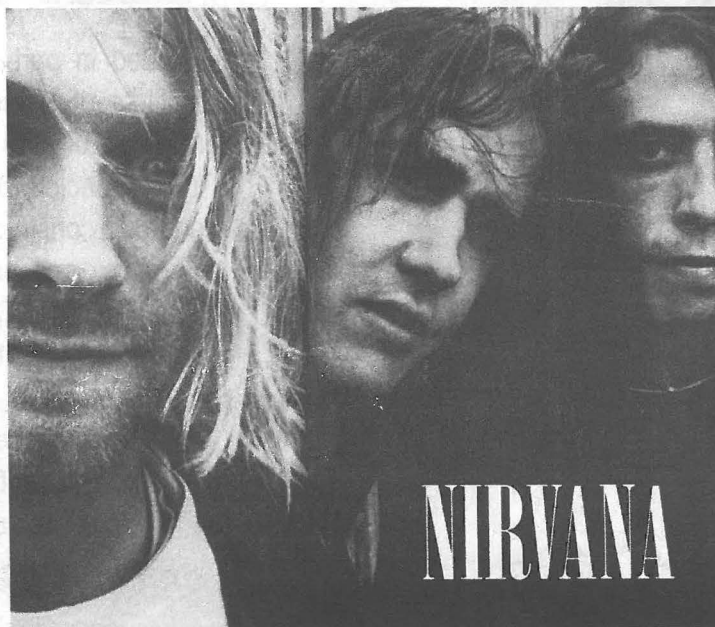
## #2: Fugees - "Killing Me Softly With His Song"

"Strumming my pain with his fingers, singing my life with his words. Killing me softly with his song, killing me softly..."

It is almost impossible not to sing along. Once this track starts, the emotions of her voice overtake your heart. This song forces the audience to relive the pass heartache, or at least understand her pain. We can still relate nearly two decades later.



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA.ORG



COURTESY OF DEANOINAMERICA.WORDPRESS.COM

## #1: Nirvana - "Smells Like Teen Spirit"

"With the lights out, it's less dangerous, here we are now, entertain us, I feel stupid and contagious. Here we are now entertain us."

This song is the anthem of the 90s, there's no "denial" about that. Once the guitar starts strumming, lead singer, the late Kurt Cobain, sets the mood and creates a rebel atmosphere, letting everyone know "it's about to go down." Nirvana may be timeless, but let's not forget they belong (and always will) to the best decade in history, the 90s.



# Join the party with “Project X”

By: **Victoria Rajkumar**  
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Hands down, if you miss this movie, you’ve lost an exciting vicarious experience that may not change your life, but it will give you a hell of a lot of incentive to do so. “Project X” is every innate party animal’s wet dream. The entire premise of the story is about three misfits who, while on the hunt for some co-ed lovin’, throw the most epic birthday party to ever hit suburban Pasadena, Calif.

The birthday boy, Thomas (played by Thomas Mann), is a social outcast who is joined by the pudgy, virginal, JB (Jonathan Daniel Brown) and New York’s “finest” (allegedly) Costa, played by Oliver Cooper. Along with the hidden cameraman, Dax (Dax Flame), who may or may not be a sociopath, these nobodies become overnight felons and legends. Thomas’ parents, who believe their son is a complete social spaz, decide it’s a safe bet to leave him home alone for the weekend with his “nerd crew” while they go on an anniversary vacation.

Let me just say, these dorks can



Watch these high school underdogs take their popularity to the next level in the movie “Project X”. COURTESY OF QISTORY.WORDPRESS.COM

really party. I swear I can’t find an element this movie may have missed. There’s an onslaught of sex, drugs, violence, and comedy. You name it. It’s there. These guys put your biggest high school accomplishment to shame and leave it burning in alcohol-induced flames.

Many people claim that this movie is “overhyped.” Well, yeah. It

is. But for obvious reasons. I mean, come on, this movie is brought to you by the makers of “The Hangover” (2009), and who doesn’t want to party with those dudes for a weekend?

I, along with the rest of the audience (who I wish joined me at the club after the movie; they were an awesome group), were in a party-going state of mind. We

were dancing and screaming along with the characters. Their teenage debauchery is contagious — sans the herpes, thankfully. This is a movie I could watch again and be in awe. Then again, if you knew someone who destroyed their family home, drove their dad’s car into the pool and set their entire neighborhood on fire in one fail swoop, you’d probably

be hitched up to their bandwagon too (sorry, Kony 2012).

If you can party as big as you can dream, check out “Project X.” It is rated R for a reason (so you know it’s absolutely worth it). Nudity ensues, so leave your shame at home and get ready to experience the biggest, craziest party you may ever get invited to.

# Clueless about what Fort Lauderdale has to offer? This website will save your weekend

By: **Saily Regueiro**  
Contributing Writer

Living in Florida definitely has its perks. Year-round warm weather. Sandy beaches. Non-stop activities. Florida certainly is a great place to live. But even with the vast array of events going on around South Florida, there are still those who don’t know what is happening in their own community.

Thanks to the recent launch of Fort Lauderdale Online Magazine, that has all changed. If you are looking for an exciting night out, a movie show time, rock concert, a fabulous dining experience or the latest performing arts event, you need to visit [www.fortlauderdaleonlinemagazine.com](http://www.fortlauderdaleonlinemagazine.com).

Fort Lauderdale Online caters to the needs of anyone looking to experience Fort Lauderdale life. One of the best features about this website is that it is designed for people of all ages, providing a range of activities suited for adults or children or both.

When you first view Fort Lauderdale Online, the feeling of fun jumps right off the page. The brilliant pictures of the Fort Lauderdale landscapes alone are a great reason to visit this website. Once there, you will find there is no limit to the amazing things that Fort Lauderdale has to offer. Nightlife, cultural arts, local attractions, yachting, shopping and sports are just a few of the many features you will soon discover.

The Local Beat feature showcases the latest in news from the Fort Lauderdale community. For the fishing enthusiast, the Boating & Marina link offers information

to find the perfect fishing guides and the sport fishing boats that can take you off the coast of Fort Lauderdale.

Food is a big deal in South Florida. With all the different cultures represented in the area, the Food & Libations link offers a diverse choice of unique places to purchase organic meats and produce, international foods and the best seafood Florida has to offer, including recipes for the aspiring chef.

For those who enjoy shopping as much as they do eating, the shopping link provides a list of great malls, plazas and shopping centers around the Fort Lauderdale area, which include the Galleria Mall.

If it’s fun and excitement that you are searching for, then check out the Attractions link, which links all of the great places to have an exciting time in Fort Lauderdale, such as kayaking or diving.

There is really no limit to the possibilities of finding adventure in Fort Lauderdale. You can visit one of the fun and educational museums, experience the flea markets and outdoor farmer’s markets, or just take a relaxing bike ride down on the beach.

To stay informed about any updates that these websites present join the Fort Lauderdale Online social media sites: Google+ Page, Twitter site @fortlauderdaleonline, and Fort Lauderdale Online Facebook page.

So log on and find out about what is going on in Fort Lauderdale. You may be surprised at all the amazing things waiting to be discovered.



The Las Olas Street Festival is just one of many events you don't want to miss! COURTESY OF [HTTP://LASOLASWINEANDFOOD.COM](http://LASOLASWINEANDFOOD.COM)

## offshore March 20 - March 26

### Tuesday 3.20

Oscar D’Leon Hard Rock Live, Hollywood, 8 p.m.

Chris Webby There goes the neighborhood tour w/ special guests Kids These Days The Culture Room, Ft. Lauderdale, 7:30 p.m.

Comedy Jam Miami Improv, Coconut Grove, 10 p.m.

### Wednesday 3.21

Trevor Hall w/special guests Cas Haley The Culture Room, Ft. Lauderdale, 7:30 p.m.

GREEN ROOM: Brown Bag Wednesdays Rich Kid Sound System, Dangerflow, Pangea Kidz, Dream Notez Revolution Live, Ft. Lauderdale, 10 p.m.

### Thursday 3.22

Disney on Ice presents Toy Story 3 American Airlines Arena, Miami, 7 p.m.

George Lopez Hard Rock Live, Hollywood, 8 p.m.

### Friday 3. 23

Panthers vs. Edmonton Oilers Bank Atlantic Center, Sunrise, 6:30 p.m.

Asher Roth Revolution Live, Ft. Lauderdale, 7 p.m.

Nick Cannon Miami Improv, Coconut Grove, 8:30 pm & 10:45 p.m.

### Saturday 3.24

Hot Chelle Rae Beautiful Freaks Tour 2012 w/special guests Electric Touch and Cady Groves The Culture Room, Ft. Lauderdale, 6:30 p.m.

### Sunday 3.25

Blondie Hard Rock Live, Hollywood, 7 p.m.

Blue October Revolution Live, Ft. Lauderdale, 7 p.m.

\*Listen to Radio X – WNSU 88.5 for a chance to win tickets to these events. Call (954) 262 – 8460 between 6 p.m. and 3 a.m.



# Dear NSU students: Want change? Make change!

By: **Dean Gabriel Williams**  
News Editor

When I transferred here last year from FIU, I was disappointed to find that students here didn't hold student involvement and student leadership in a high regard. As I began to become involved at NSU, I learned more about the university system and began to understand the uniqueness of the NSU student experience. Here are six conclusions that I have reached in my two semesters of being a Shark:

First, many students and administrators often talk about the lack of a university identity. There is much conversation about how to create a university identity, but the solution is more obvious than many would like to admit: the formation of one unified student government. While many may oppose it, one SGA would not only unify NSU into a collective student body, but provide for an effective and efficient system of student advocacy and governance. The current system is ineffective and even more bureaucratic than a one SGA proposal because it not only defragments the student body of NSU, but defragments the way students get their issues and desires heard.

Second, student empowerment at NSU is lacking. Despite what many might think and feel, the students are the highest stakeholders of NSU; if the university succeeds, the students reap the most benefits. If the university fails to achieve success, students stand to lose the most. There should be a student trustee on the Board of Trustees and student representatives on university-wide committees, all with full voting power and authority. A student body that is empowered is



NSU students should exhibit more Shark Pride by getting involved and making positive changes to the university.

COURTESY OF NSUNews.NOVA.EDU

directly equitable to a student body that understands and embraces its role within the university community.

Third, as service-fee paying students, the student body, through its student government officials, should be allowed to allocate the entire collective student services fee. If the secretary of treasury were to take the power away from your elected leaders in congress to write the budget of the federal government and do it without their input, people would be protesting and making a big fuss. In the same manner, students need to realize that the power to allocate the entire student services fee should rest with the students. This is a fee that we pay to ensure that we have adequate student services on campus, and it is only fitting that our elected student government officials have the power

and authority to allocate the full fee, as collected by the university.

Fourth, the Greek community at NSU needs to advance itself. I went Greek as an undergraduate and it disappoints me when I talk to non-Greek students at NSU about the Greek experience, and their response is that "there is no compelling reason for me to go Greek," or "why would I want to go Greek, that's just a club." What these comments say to me are two things: first, that the objective of Greek life isn't understood at NSU, and second, that Greeks at NSU have not made enough of an effort to really impart upon the student body what Brotherhood and Sisterhood means. It's more than just people who wear letters, and it's definitely not people who pay to have friends per semester. It's truly an experience that gives you a ritual that you use as a blueprint to

guide you through all obstacles that you will encounter in life and assist you in achieving success. Greek life has a prominent role in student life at any college, and Greeks at NSU need to find ways to work within the confines of the current system to not only demonstrate that they can meet the expectations, but exceed them as well.

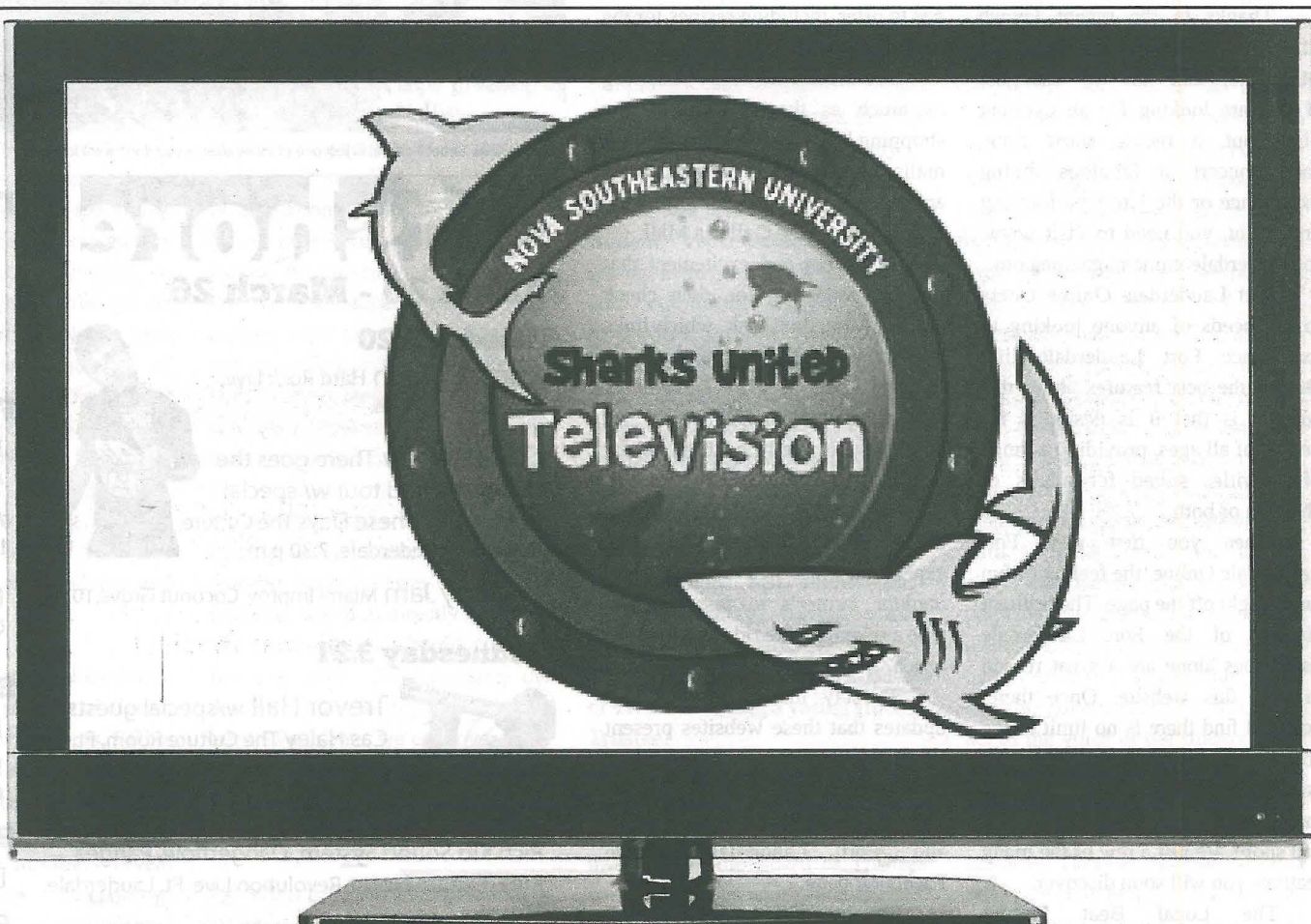
Fifth, there is a pattern at NSU to make decisions for the future of student life based off the past. The truth is that student life at NSU is growing and is on its way to becoming comparable to its counterparts in the state. It is impossible, for example, to believe that the undergraduate SGA could serve more students with \$100,000, when student life has expanded drastically in the past two years. Reliance on historical information should be used as a

starting point, but audits and forecasts should be heavily relied on to make accurate decisions about all areas of student life.

Lastly, students need to understand that the real and true power to change the student experience at NSU rests with students. Apathy and complacency seems to be the norm amongst the student body. When I first came to NSU, I complained a lot about student life, but I also invested in the student body by getting involved and finding out how I can bring about the changes that I want to see at NSU. And after two semesters, I can honestly say that I have made exactly the impact that I wanted to make. I can only hope that members of the student body read this and decide to do the same.

## Channel 96

that's all you  
need to know





# The lessons economic history tried to teach us

By: **Mohamed Abdi-Hakim**  
Contributing Writer

For what it's worth, it's not your fault. I mean, how could it be? You're just a single grain of sand in the hourglass that flips too quickly. Who am I, or any of us for that matter, to expect you to break a long standing mold and actually spend more money during hard times? How many of your friends really subscribe to the notion that spending more is how a nation leads itself out of an economic crisis?

Herein lies the problem, folks. Historical trends, one in particular, tend to show some surprising facts about people and their habits. One of the habits we carry around as citizens is we like to hold on to our money when all we can hear is "recession". Why wouldn't we? Well, because a teaspoon of kerosene may not be enough to noticeably amplify a forest fire, but it isn't helping either. When people lose faith in their own purchasing power and in the benefit of purchasing goods, the economy suffers as a whole.

The modern approach to economical healing through proverbial financial lethargy isn't new. The 1920s witnessed an economic theory, or set of theories, that invested unwavering confidence in a seemingly self sufficient market. The problem was that the hands off approach led to inflation

and businesses doing what lack of regulation allow them to do: just about anything they wanted.

We assumed the market would regulate itself. It didn't, backseat drivers. As time passed we came up with new theories to explain economic trends so we could just watch them happen. Backseat drivers AND excuse-makers. Effectively, we sat back and, technically, continued not having a hand in our own economy.

If it wasn't the fault of a dimwitted government official, it was that of a theory that had no place being published in the first place. Looking back at isolated chunks of economic history — from Adam Smith, to Keynesian economics, to the modern global economy — a recurring theme is apparent. As spenders and consumers, we've more often than not helped to amplify the ill effects of a down economy. We held on to our money, kept it tightly to our bosoms, when in fact it rightfully belonged to those running shoes you've always wanted.

To spend one's hard earned money frivolously is far from advisable. But spending confidently, knowing that this is what works to lift us out of fiscal darkness, can only add to the recovery. Roger E.A. Farmer of the Financial Times makes note of the natural drop in confidence of a people when faced with a financial



America has not learned economic lessons from the Great Depression.

crisis. He said, "If confidence is high, wealth will be high and employment will be high. If confidence is low, wealth will be low and employment will be low."

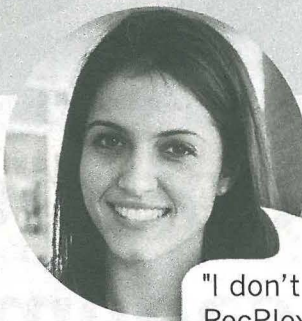
Oddly enough, it really is that simple. Spend and contribute to the recovery, or hold off and risk financial stagnation on a bigger scale than just your wallet. I'm not

suggesting that anyone go out and take loans to purchase something they neither need nor can pay for. But, for goodness' sake, buy that new shirt!

## On the Scene: What do you like or dislike about the RecPlex?



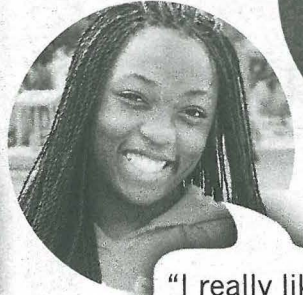
"I wish the rock-climbing wall had more hours. The ones now are inconvenient."  
**Stephanie Kolann, freshman biology major**



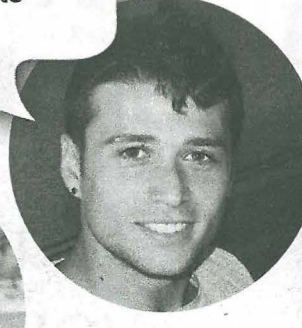
"I don't really get to use the RecPlex because it is too far away [from home]. Being a commuter makes it difficult to go when I want."  
**Karina Delgado, junior biology major**



"It serves my needs pretty well but I wish it had an indoor soccer court like my old school but with this weather I guess it is OK. The music is pretty dull. I am not much of a fan of the top 40s."  
**Justin Coyle, first-year medical major**



"I really like it. [The RecPlex] stays open late and I don't really like to work out during the day."  
**Naica Daphinis, freshman nursing major**



"I like [the RecPlex] because there are a lot of machines and it is really big so it doesn't get very congested. I like the racquet ball courts. Those are great."  
**Andrea Giombeetti, freshman sports management**

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